

House Bill 183 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Dickey of the 140th, Epps of the 144th, Brockway of the 102nd, and Gilligan of the 24th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Department of Community Affairs, so as to recreate the Georgia Geospatial Advisory
3 Council under the Department of Community Affairs; to provide for definitions; to provide
4 that all documents and data of the current Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council that is under
5 the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources shall be
6 transferred to the new council; to provide for appointment of members to the council,
7 selection of a chairperson, and payment of certain expenses; to provide for availability of
8 reports generated by the council; to provide for promulgation of certain rules and regulations;
9 to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
10 for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

12 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

13 Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department
14 of Community Affairs, is amended by adding a new article to read follows:

15 style="text-align:center">"ARTICLE 13

16 50-8-300.

17 As used in this article, the term:

18 (1) 'Commissioner' means the commissioner of community affairs.

19 (2) 'Department' means the Department of Community Affairs.

20 50-8-301.

21 (a) The Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council shall be created. All data, reports, and other
22 documents of the former Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council as such existed under the

23 Department of Natural Resources prior to June 30, 2017, shall be transferred to the
 24 department for use by such newly created council.

25 (b) The department shall coordinate the recreation of the Georgia Geospatial Advisory
 26 Council. The commissioner, or his or her designee, shall coordinate with state executive
 27 branch departments and agencies to appoint members of the council, which may consist of
 28 representatives from state departments and agencies, local governments, universities,
 29 regional commissions, or any other entity the department determines to be a stakeholder
 30 active in the development or consumption of reliable geospatial resources.

31 (c) The council shall meet initially upon the call of the commissioner and shall elect a
 32 chairperson at the initial meeting. Subsequent meetings shall be called by the chairperson.
 33 The members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.
 34 Councilmembers shall receive no compensation for their services as members of the
 35 council, but their travel expenses, if any, related to the performance of their official duties
 36 may be covered by the departments, agencies, or organizations they represent.

37 (d) The council shall make recommendations for:

38 (1) Utilizing geospatial capabilities in Georgia to meet any federal notification
 39 requirements;

40 (2) Moving forward to achieve reliable governmental data interoperability and enhanced
 41 delivery of services to Georgia citizens through the geospatial approach; and

42 (3) Any other aspects of data collection, information optimization, and innovation
 43 determined by the council to be necessary for the advancement of geospatial technology.

44 (e) The council may closely coordinate its efforts with the Georgia Technology Authority
 45 to ensure compliance with all state and federal standards, contracts, and procedures.

46 (f) Any reports generated by the council shall be made available on an annual basis by the
 47 department to the members of the General Assembly, all departments and agencies of state
 48 government, all county and municipal governments, and members of the general public by
 49 posting such reports on the appropriate state agency websites.

50 (g) The department shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be reasonable and
 51 necessary for the administration of this article."

52 **SECTION 2.**

53 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017.

54 **SECTION 3.**

55 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.